

Remarks

Claims 1-2 & 10-16 are at issue. Claim 1 stands rejected based on 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Dougherty et al (US 6,452,361). Claim 2 stands rejected based on 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Chan et al (US 6,611,166). Claims 3, 6-9 stand rejected based on 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan in view of Dougherty. Claims 4-5 stand rejected based on 35 USC 103(a) as being over Chan in view of Dougherty and further in view of Grunert et al (US 4,691,180). Claim 8 stands rejected based on 35 USC 103(a) as being over Chan in view of Dougherty and further in view of Haner (US 2,819,410). Claim 9 stands rejected based on 35 USC 103(a) as being over Chan in view of Dougherty and further in view of Munshi (US 6,645,675). Claims 10-16 are similar to cancelled claims 3-9.

Power of Attorney & Change of Correspondence Address

Note that a power of attorney and change of correspondence address are enclosed.

Claim 1 requires a capacitive device that is used to transfer energy from the energizing device into the energy storage device, steps b-d. The Examiner points to column 4, lines 40-43. However, there is no "capacitive device" described in this section. What is described is inductor 226. An inductor is not a "capacitive device". As a result, there is no energizing of a capacitive device as required by step (b). There is no isolation of the capacitive device as required by step (c) and there is no discharge of the capacitive device into the electrical energy storage device.

The best analogy to the present invention would be that the alternator 21 is the electrical power source, the reserve battery 20 is the capacitive device and the starter battery 14 is the energy storage device. However, the reserve battery 20 is never electrically isolated from the alternator as required by step (c). Claim 1 is clearly allowable over the prior art.

Claim 2 covers the process of de-energizing a large energy storage device such as a capacitor. The Examiner points to Chan. Chan is directed to a circuit that monitors a charge pump and indicates the presence or absences of a load (See

Abstract). This is clearly unrelated to the present application. Specifically, claim 2 requires a capacitor. The Examiner points to element 200 & 202 in FIG. 3. A power source and a charge pump are not a capacitor. Step (a) require de-energizing the energy storage device into a capacitor. No capacitor is shown. In addition, there is no isolating of capacitive device as required by step (b). Claim 2 is clearly allowable over the prior art.


Claim 10 requires a capacitor in series with a energy power source and a switch. Neither Chan nor Dougherty show this combination. Claim 10 is allowable.

Claims 11-16 are allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.

Prompt reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

(Hacsi)

By 

Attorney for the Applicant

Dale B. Halling

Phone: (719) 447-1990

Fax: (719) 447-0983

Customer No.: 25,007

Reg. No.: 38,170

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